

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 20, replace the paragraph beginning on line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

Catalyst E comprising oxides of Ti and Mo was prepared in substantially the same way as that in Reference Example 1 except for the use of titanium tetrachloride in place of stannic chloride pentahydrate. The composition of catalyst **[[F]]E** consisted of 44 mass% of  $\text{TiO}_2$ , 17 mass% of  $\text{MoO}_3$ , and 39 mass% of  $\text{SiO}_2$ . Catalyst **[[F]]E** had an Mo/ (Ti + Mo) atomic ratio of 0.18, was in the form of a smooth sphere suitable for a fluid bed catalyst, and had sufficient mechanical strength.

Page 20, replace the paragraph beginning on line 23 through page 21, line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

Catalyst F having a different composition was prepared in substantially the same way as that in Reference Example 1. The composition of catalyst F consisted of 46 mass% of  $\text{SnO}_2$ , 16 mass% of  $\text{MoO}_3$ , and 38 mass% of  $\text{SiO}_2$ . Catalyst **[[B]]E** had an Mo/ (Sn + Mo) atomic ratio of 0.29, was in the form of a smooth sphere suitable for a fluid bed catalyst, and had sufficient mechanical strength.